

Case-Halls Mills,
Investigation-DeM.

Re-
105.1896
DeM/Russell

On November 11th, 1926. In company with J.B. arrived at 300 West 152nd Street at 7:30 A.M., and there interviewed one Edward O'Neil Nelson colored, and when I showed him the letter he admitted that he wrote same and I received the following statement from him.

Edward O'Neil Nelson is 34 years of age and lives at 300 West 152 Street, New York City, deposes and says that about two weeks before October 31st, 1926, while at the corner of William and Wall Streets, New York City, just after leaving the office of Jacob R. Marvin of 52 William Street, I was approached by a man who said he was a New Jersey Detective and working for the interests of the state of New Jersey on the Halls and Mills Case, asked me if I wanted to make some money. I felt suspicious in the way he approached me and I answered yes I want to make some money. The detective answered I want to take you to New Jersey to contradict the testimony of the negro woman Nellie Russell, she states that the pig woman was at her house on the night of the murder, Now as Nellie Russell at one time lived in New York I want you to testify that you saw Nellie Russell in New York City at that particular night that she says the pig woman was at her house. Money will not be any object and you will be paid well for your service. I told him I did not know Nellie Russell or anybody concerned in the case, nor had I at any time been in the town where the crime was committed. The detective said I will take you to New Jersey and show you the surroundings and also have you take a look at Nellie Russell. I refuse to do this, and this detective then answered if you don't do this we will get somebody else to do it because it must be done. He kept on pestering me to do this and assured me that no harm would come to me as they would protect me. When he told me that money would be no object he displayed a large roll of bills containing \$10. bills. The conversation about me giving testimony against Nellie Russell started after we had left a saloon on the corner of Pitt and Monroe Streets, New York City. From there he accompanied me to the West